We’re on in 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.

Good Morning and welcome to UPWP morning news—I’m Halley Sodergren.

Yesterday started off with a bang at the summer writing institute. Billy Joel made a surprise appearance singing his new and revised version of “Piano Man” and “We didn’t start the fire.” His groupies Chandra and Kara showed their enthusiasm by singing along and dancing—providing entertainment for the group.

Throughout the stellar performance the audience enjoyed yummy yogurt parfaits, pecan banana upside down French toast and fresh cantaloupe provided by Debbie.

From Billy and breakfast to Smily Suzanne and her A.M. Reminders. Suzanne pleasantly informed us to send in our head shot photos for our special guest tomorrow, Shannon Luehmann. Suzanne also mentioned upcoming field trip events that UPWP plans to partake in. Please send your ideas to UPWP2009.wikispaces.com and stay tuned for further notice.

In the technology world, the new transitional photo program—photo story three--is becoming quite popular. Yesterday morning, the UPWP gave an outstanding presentation of a collaborative photo story that included the writers’ stories along with their childhood memory maps. After the presentation Kara was quoted by saying, “We all sounded like writers”.

Next in the UPWP news, is the amazing lesson demonstration by renowned teacher Jan Sabin. Her lesson was based on the teaching of writing and was given yesterday at the Federation of Women’s Club. Jan transitioned quickly among her various materials and shared her classroom resources with the groups. Some of the resources consisted of NWP’s continuum of language, her hand crafted student work, and her lesson plan titled “A Gathering of Words: Writing with Inexperienced Students.” Her lesson focused on expanding students’ vocabulary to make them stronger writers. Cute wood pieces with written words, eclectic rocks with painted words, and magnetic poetry, were used to create string poetry. The UPWP writers were also exposed to some well known educational writers like Tom Romano, Georgia Heard, and Katie Wood Ray.

Along the same lines as Jan’s string poetry we just got a special report from our field reporter, Michelle Bradley. All you aspiring poets out there listen up. Michelle.

Insert Poetry reading

With the afternoon came more words, but this time from different voices. Members of the UPWP made a visit to the Peter While Library where there was an exhibit on mental illness. Artistic portraits were paired with a person’s recorded voice talking about mental illnesses and how it affects their lives in some way or other. The day ended with the group discussing their impressions on the exhibit and the sharing of personal commentary in regards to mental illnesses. Visit the Peter White Public Library on the corner of Front and Ridge St downtown Marquette to view the exhibit.

Special thanks to Sarah and Joe for their technical help on the behalf of UPWP as well as Debbie for her delicious snacks. Also thank you to our second grade students who shared their stories of “Captain Guter and the Fishy Case” and “Turtles” with the UPWP.

Thank you for tuning in to UPWP on this Wednesday morning broadcast. Keep writing, Marquette.